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## **The Limits of Empire in the Early Modern World: A Conference in Honor of Geoffrey Parker**

Friday-Saturday, February 27-28, 2009  
Mershon Center for International Security  
Studies  
1501 Neil Ave., Columbus, OH 43201

### **Organizers**

Pamela McVay, Ursuline College  
David Coleman, Eastern Kentucky University  
Diane Tyer, Eastern Kentucky University

*To register for this conference, please visit  
the [conference web site](#).*

## **Conference Schedule**

### **Friday, February 27**

9-9:30 a.m. Coffee and Pastries

9:30-10:30 a.m. Panel One: Diplomacy and  
Imperial Limitation: Information, Rumor  
and the Practice of Power

Moderator: Chris Friedrichs, University of British Columbia

Denice Fett, The Ohio State University, "Information, Gossip and Rumor: The Limits of  
Intelligence at the Early Modern Court, 1558-1571"

Edward Tenace, Lyon College, "Messianic Imperialism or Traditional Dynasticism? The Grand  
Strategy of Philip II and the Spanish Failure in the Wars of the 1590s"

10:30-10:45 a.m. Break

10:45-11:45 a.m. Panel Two: Roundtable on Information and Empire in the Early Modern  
World



Panelists: Paul Dover, Kennesaw State University  
John Guilmartin, The Ohio State University  
David Coleman, Eastern Kentucky University

**11:45 a.m. - 1 p.m. Lunch**

**1-2:30 p.m. Panel Three: The Edges of Hispanic Hegemony**

Moderator: Cliff Rogers, United States Military Academy

Comment: Mark Choate, Brigham Young University

Bethany Aram, International College of Seville, "Distance and Misinformation in the Conquest of America"

Michael Levin, University of Akron, "Italy and the Limits of Spanish Empire"

Andrew Mitchell, Grove City College, "'Por Dios, Por Patria': The Sacral Limits of Empire as Seen in Catalan Political Sermons, 1638-1641"

**2:30- 2:45 p.m. Break**

**3-4 p.m. Plenary Speaker**

Jeremy Black, University of Exeter

"The Limits of Empire in the Early Modern World: The Case of Britain, 1660-1800"

**Saturday, February 28**

**9-9:30 a.m. Coffee and Pastries**

**9:30-10:30 a.m. Panel Four: The Limits of Empire in the Early Modern World: The Case of the Dutch Republic**

Moderator: Jamel Ostwald, Eastern Connecticut State University

Mary Sprunger, Eastern Mennonite University, "The Limits of Faith in a Maritime Empire: Mennonites, Trade and Politics in the Dutch Golden Age"

Pamela McVay, Ursuline College, "The Ideology of Order: Courts and Mediators on the Fringes of the Dutch Colonial Empire"

**10-10:15 a.m. Break**

**10:45-11:45 a.m. Panel Five: Theorizing Sovereignty and Empire**

Moderator: Cecilia Miller, Wesleyan University

Derek Croxton, Independent Scholar, "The Limits of Empire: The Development of Independent States in Europe"

Cristina Borreguero Beltrán, Universidad de Burgos, "Isabel Clara Eugenia: A Daughter of the Spanish Empire"

**11:45 a.m.-1 p.m. Lunch**

**1-2 p.m. Panel Six: Frontiers of Early Modern Rulership**

Moderator: Richard Unger, University of British Columbia

Matthew P. Romaniello, University of Hawaii, "The Façade of Order: Limiting Imperial Space in Early Modern Russia"

Andrea J. Smidt, Geneva College, "Enlightened Absolutism and New Frontiers for Political Authority: Building Toward a State Religion in Eighteenth-Century Spain"

**2:15-3 p.m. Concluding Remarks: Geoffrey Parker**

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